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# Bangalore Mirror ON SATURDAY

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## STOP PLASTIC

BBMP finally decides to ban single-use plastic at its events

PAGE 4

## DOUBLE DECKER

Suburban rail to have double decker alignment at Yelahanka

PAGE 6

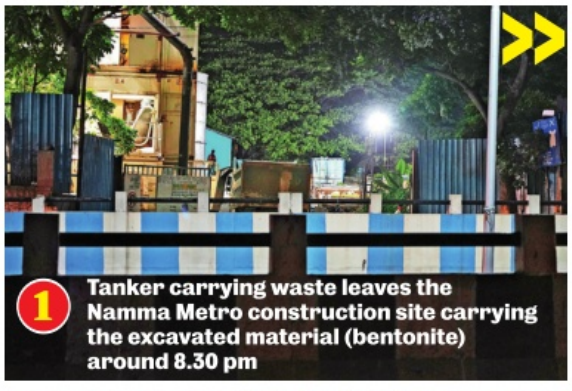
### BM catches in the act contractors appointed to transport waste excavated from Namma Metro work site creepily dunking it into drain on Bannerghatta Road

# NO QUESTIONS ASKED, IT IS A SLUDGE FEST

STING

**BMRCL pays ₹4,800 per tanker to take waste to designated dumpyard in Mylasandra. But who will go that far?**

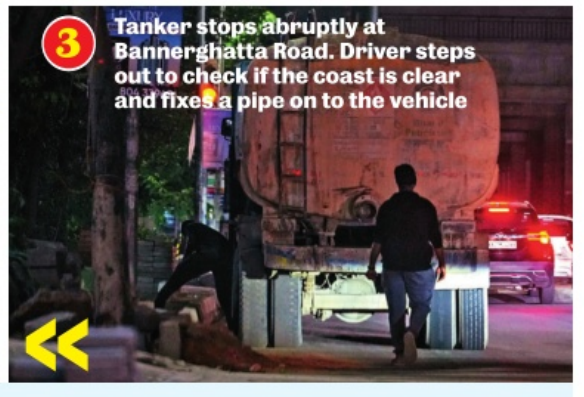
PICS: KAUSHIK JN



1 Tanker carrying waste leaves the Namma Metro construction site carrying the excavated material (bentonite) around 8.30 pm

2 Tanker purportedly on its way to Mylasandra dump site as we follow it

4 The toxic sludge starts getting pumped into a roadside drain



3 Tanker stops abruptly at Bannerghatta Road. Driver steps out to check if the coast is clear and fixes a pipe on to the vehicle

| Y Maheswara Reddy
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TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

> **"If the excavated material is released into the drain, it will become tough for BBMP workers to remove silt from the drain. It is tougher than removing sewage or silt** – Nagesh Aras, environmentalist

Do you know why the drains on Bannerghatta Road are clogged? Usually the first civic agency that gets accused of laxity in this matter is the Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) for not clearing garbage and silt from these drains.

But, some shocking revelation shows that it is not the BBMP to blame.

A few irresponsible and greedy contractors, engaged to transport excavated material (bentonite) from on-going Namma Metro construction sites near Dairy Circle, MICO Industries and Langford Town in Reach-6 line of Bangalore Metro Rail Corporation Project Phase 2, are responsible for clogging these drains.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 10 »

# Time to deflate some tyres?

Idea of 'tyre-killers' to deter wrong-side driving/riding may sound appealing, but needs to be studied carefully

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Wrong-side riding/driving can be quite the traffic disruptor. Now after the Ahmedabad Municipal Corporation (AMC) has resorted to installing 'tyre killers' to curb the errant drivers, many in the city wonder if such an extreme measure would help in Bengaluru too. Tyre killers would act similar to a regular speed breaker to vehicles moving in the right direction. However, it is designed to rip holes in tyres of vehicles moving in the wrong direction. These are now commonly found in Ahmedabad, especially at the exit points of underpasses.

Venkatesh, a resident of Attiguppe, said that wrong-side driving is rampant in the area. "It is most prevalent especially in the areas near metro stations, as those who drop their relatives or friends to the station, choose to revert in the wrong direction as it is convenient. It requires them to drive or ride back into heavy incoming traffic, increasing the risk of mishaps. The Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP)

CONTINUED ON PAGE 10 »

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## REARVIEW MIRROR

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# That 90s video

How a slow revolution by access to international television transformed a generation and opened up pastures of global culture is still a story that resonates beyond the social media echo chamber.

When for the first time international musicians, TV shows and certain type of programming unheard of or unfamiliar until then, found space in Indian homes, why were the grownups wary and the kids, teenagers and youths sort of enthralled and glued in to some acts that repeatedly played on stations such as MTV?

Most importantly what would those naysayers who turned their heads to great music, musicians - some head banging - and wanted their kids not to stray from the path according to them, would say to the cultural chaos, or the digital tower of Babel if you like, of the day? Can they dare even raise a finger, pray tell us.

The irony is lost on those kids, teenagers and youths that missed the cultural exposure television brought forth in the 90s in the subcontinent that unfortunately suffered more censoring, than what the nonsense that goes on in the digital plane of late, from the so-called moral policing of the 90s — to something as entertaining as television come to think of it. No, not the news channels mind you which were absolutely absent from the scene back then.

So what does the aversion to acclimatising with global culture decades after independence mean for the so-called cauldron of diversity and plurality that we take pride from?

An openness to global culture was not a priority in the still conservative India of the 90s: what use is the freedom at long last then, the question arises surely. Do not the children have the freedom to understand the world as it is? As they supposedly have now in the digital pandemonium.

In the 90s, when the ultra conservative mindset launched a brazen attack on western popular music in its utter ignorance and disrespect of the other, they were not aware that one day or the other globalisation, especially as clear as it is now, and the internet, would get the better of them.

The introduction of MTV and the global musician there on was a window for the kids, teenagers and youth in this country to realise how music was perceived universally and how musicians were viewed the world over. Perhaps in a geography as rich in music as India, this cultural assimilation was long overdue. Yes, we have had the great Hindustani school emerging from such an assimilation, but the so-called western art, music and even style, was a luxury in the subcontinent of the rich or royalty.

The appreciation of western musical styles is paramount as such a comparison of cultures would inherently enrich the cultural riches of the persons and geography, in a pursuit to understand the west, immensely no doubt. There is no inspiration without developing a deep understanding of the creative pursuit of the 'other' though in wiser planes this 'other' and the so-called east-west divide are rather irrelevant and non-existent; just a construct for colonial, social or political end if you will.

A perfect Asian example of the aforesaid in Japan. How that country's culture leapfrogged into the future is one of the most amazing stories of our time. Maybe the Japanese did not tell their kids not to watch western music videos 'for they are rather an evil influence and may destroy the quintessence of the east'.

Instead what appears to have transpired over time is the clever and wise understanding of one's own culture and how unique and superior its standing. This was made possible by in-depth and insatiable curiosities and a feeling of oneness with the world reflected in how the Japanese have been inspired by everything the world culture has on offer. At times when you think, the essence of the east which India seems to have shunned which is deeply reflective in the current social milieu somehow found its calling in Japan - especially their profound connection with nature and respect for nature nevertheless.

So in the beginning of this column, why did we say that '90s video did link India to a truly global culture than in the age of tech - internet, social media or smartphones? This is rather absurd or related to how tech functions as compared to the human psyche and how the mind processes large amounts of information thrown at it.

If you explore the music scene in India at present, as compared to the 90s, it appears so scattered and directionless despite how wired the world is today; there aren't any restrictions or othering involved as it were when western musicians broke into Indian television sets in the 90s. Now in the aftermath of the digital information overload, we could indeed take a leaf out of the Japanese book perhaps.

# Plastic ban: BBMP will have to toe its own line

## Palike chief issues circular banning use of plastic at its own events; activists hope it won't remain on paper

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Plastic bottles and plates and cups tend to form a major chunk of the waste generated after any official function

At last, the Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) Chief Commissioner has issued a circular banning single use plastic at the meetings and other programmes organised by the civic body. The circular dated August 9 was issued to all the BBMP departments directing the BBMP officials asking that single-use plastic not be used during the functions.

"The Central Government has banned usage of single use plastic to prevent adverse impact on the environment. The BBMP has also issued a ban order on usage of single use plastic. However, it is found that some BBMP departments continue to use the single-use plastic during the meetings and functions. All the BBMP departments must follow the ban on single use plastic," the Chief Commissioner said in the circular.

The Chief Commissioner said that BBMP officials should use steel or glass bottles for water instead of using plastic bottles. "No food packets or snacks packed in plastic should be supplied during the meetings. Arrangements should be made to supply food or snacks in steel lunch boxes or carriers. No plastic plate, plastic cup, plastic spoon during the functions. Arrangements should be made to open a cutlery bank by purchasing steel plates, spoons and tumblers," the circular states.

The circular also asks that no one use plastic stick cotton buds, sticks, balloons, candy sticks, ice-cream plastic sticks, and thermocol for decoration purposes at the BBMP offices. "The authorities have to take measures to avoid usage of plastic carry bags and products made out of thermocol. The authorities have to initiate usage of cotton bags," the BBMP Chief Commissioner said.

Environmentalists and lake activists have welcomed the BBMP circular.

"The government should ban all single use plastic at the root level itself. Periodically they should conduct drives at markets, bars and restaurants and malls, etc., and penalise those who violate the ban on single use plastic. The government could prevent usage of single-use plastic by prohibiting manufacturing of single-use plastic," said Balaji Raghotham, a lake activist.

Describing the circular as a good move, Odette Katrak, Co-founder of Beautiful Bharat said that the BBMP Chief Commissioner has made it clear that plastic bottles are banned at all meetings and events, because mineral bottles had made an unfortunate comeback, hugely adding to city waste with high carbon footprint.

> **"The circular should not be only for lower level officers of the BBMP and should be apply to higher authorities too** –Plog Raju

"Now in coming weeks if these single-use bottles disappear from official meetings, it is the first step towards ensuring this can be implemented across events be it public, private, corporate etc, impacting city waste volume as this is a big contributor," said Katrak.

Plog Raju, known for organising plog runs in the city, said that the circular should not remain on paper and the efforts must be made to implement the ban on single use plastic. "The circular should not be only for lower level officers of the BBMP and it should be applied for higher authorities too. Heavy penalties should be imposed on those BBMP authorities who fail to follow the ban on single-use plastic," said Plog Raju.

# All that glitters

Titan Company Limited's Regional Business Head, Sharad R, inaugurated a Tanishq showroom in RR Nagar, emphasising on the evolving jewelry landscape driven by millennial preferences. On the occasion, he noted how modern buyers prioritise fashion, versatility, and ease of purchase. Jewelry shopping can be divided into wedding-focused and everyday wear categories. "Weddings demand distinct designs, while daily wear leans towards simplicity and investment value, with lightweight designs favored by the younger generation. Bengaluru has experienced growth in store count and size over the past two years, reflecting the changing dynamics in the jewelry industry," he said.

# Maharaja Trophy T20

The Karnataka State Cricket Association's Maharaja Trophy T20 cricket tournament will commence from August 13, 2023 with the final billed for August 29, 2023.

Six teams will take part in the franchise-based Maharaja T20 Trophy with each team part of the round robin format in the group stage. The names of the participating teams are: Holders Gulbarga Mystics, Bengaluru Blasters, Mysuru Warriors, Hubli Tigers, along with two new franchises, Mangaluru Dragons and Shivamogga Lions.

The top four teams at the end of the group stage will make it to the semi-finals. The winners will square off against each other in the Final for the Maharaja T20 Trophy. All the 33 matches of the tournament will be played at the M. Chinnaswamy Stadium, Bengaluru.

B. K. Sampath Kumar, KSCA Vice President and Chairman, Maharaja Trophy KSCA T20, said: "Rain is expected during the tournament, so the Chinnaswamy Stadium which is equipped with the SubAir drainage system, is the best option. Even during the IPL, we were able to get full 20-over matches here despite heavy rain." **BMB**

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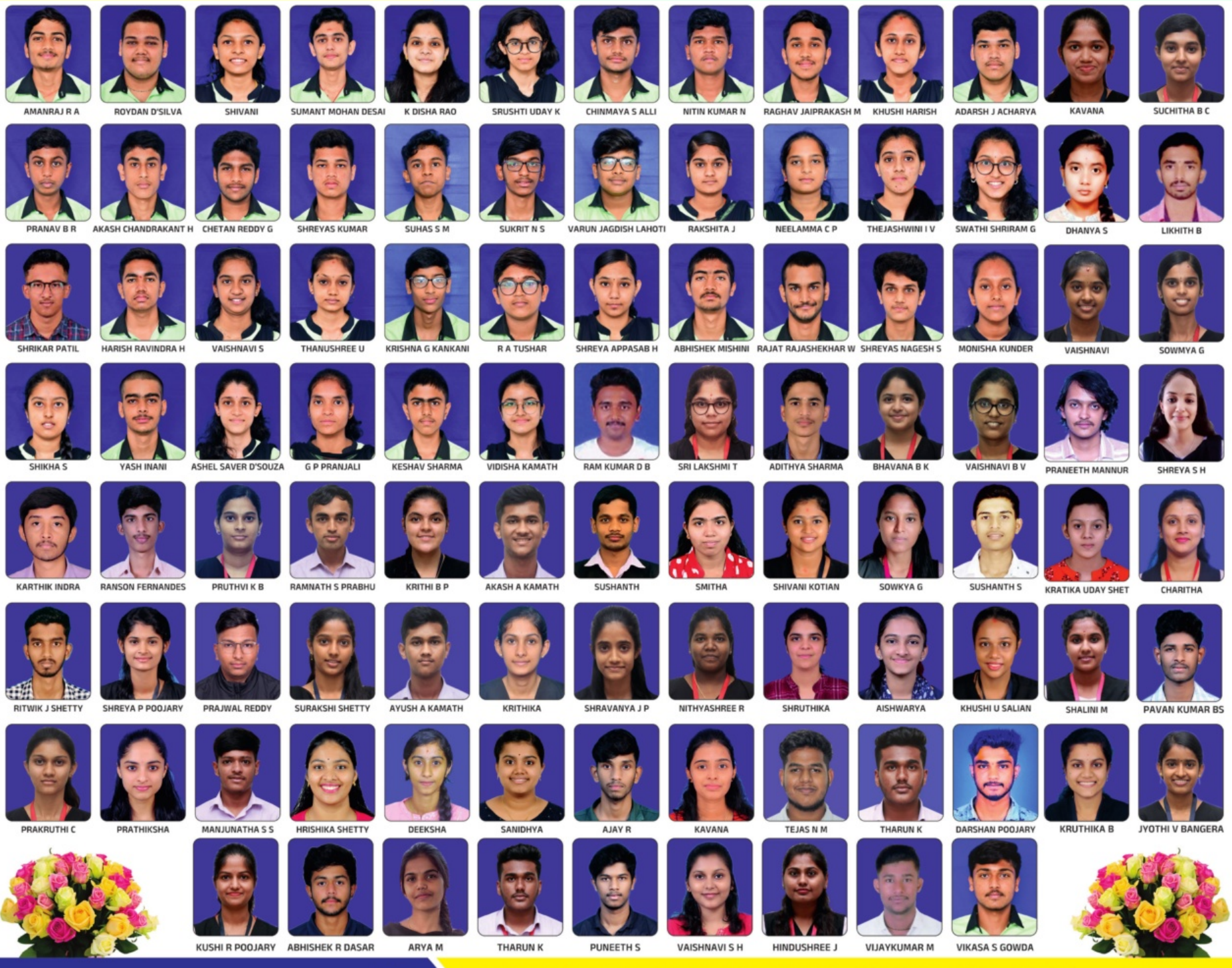


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# Double-decker vision of B'luru Suburban Railway

## Suburban train network now to be completed only in 2028

| Sridhar Vivan
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TWEETS @sridharvMirror

After the introduction of double-decker flyovers, it is now the double-decker rail alignment's turn to shine in the Bengaluru Suburban railway project. Corridor one and four at Yelahanka will feature this innovative double-decker alignment. Interestingly, this project is also set to eliminate level crossings by elevating the formation, in contrast to the traditional approach of providing Road under Bridges (RuBs).

This unique technique not only addresses water logging issues commonly seen in Bengaluru's underpasses but also reduces the need for extensive land acquisition within the city. Moreover, the network will share the right of way with the Bengaluru Metro at the Benniganahalli location, resulting in significant savings in land acquisition costs and the avoidance of building demolitions.

The long-awaited suburban train network, originally slated for completion in 2026, now anticipates realisation in 2028. Infrastructure Minister MB Patil said that corridor two, spanning from Chikkabanavara to Baiyappanahalli, is expected finish in 26 months. The current progress stands between 10 to 15 percent.

PICTURE FOR REPRESENTATION ONLY

This project will eliminate level crossings by elevating the formation, in contrast to the traditional approach of Road under Bridges

> **"For laying tracks, 5.11 acres of private property and 7.73 acres of government property is required** – MB Patil, Infrastructure Minister

"We are hopeful that the ground level works will be completed in the next 10 months. For completion of corridor 2, 157 acres of land has been acquired from South Western Railways on a lease basis. For laying tracks, 5.11 acres of private property have been acquired. Around 7.73 acres of government property is also required and so far, 2.72 acres have been acquired. Around 12 stations will be constructed in this corridor under EPC mode. Around 10 train rakes will be procured by 2025," Patil said.

He said that the Heelalige-Rajanakunte stretch (corridor 3) will be taken up in the next phase, while Whitefield-Kengeri will be addressed in corridor 4. He said, "There is a proposal to extend the sub-urban network to Chikkaballapur, Mysuru, Tumakuru, Gowribidanur, Kolar and Hosur. I have instructed the officials to do a survey on the extension and if this materialises, the sub-urban corridor will be extended from 148 km to 452 km."

Patil emphasised that the suburban train project is estimated to cost Rs 15,767 crore. "The Chief Minister has allocated Rs 1,000 crore in the current fiscal year. There is a plan to borrow Rs 7,438 crore from Luxembourg-based KFW European Bank for which a MoU will be entered in December. Following this, tenders will be issued for corridor one (41.40 km stretch between Bengaluru - Devanahalli + Airport Connectivity) and corridor three (35.52 km stretch between Kengeri to Whitefield)."

Officials said that in corridor two, preliminary groundwork including surveying, utility identification, shifting, and geotechnical investigation has been completed. "Further, a series of initial tasks, including surveying, Ground Penetrating Radar (GPR) analysis, soil investigation, and alignment design, has been completed in collaboration with stakeholders. Additionally, efforts to identify utilities and coordinate with relevant parties have been undertaken. The project is also progressing with ground levelling, the establishment of a casting yard, and a batching plant. Currently, the design process for minor and major bridges, U girders, and I girders is underway. Concerning utility shifting, Signal and Telecommunication (S&T) utilities have been relocated, while efforts to shift electrical utilities and High Tension (HT) lines are in progress.

As the project advances, work on the elevated portion is set to commence shortly. With a focus on expediting progress, efforts are concentrated on a priority stretch spanning approximately eight kilometres from Chikkabanavara to Yeshwanthpur," stated an official.

# Footpath encroachment puts pedestrians in danger

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**PUBLIC NOTICE**

It is hereby informed to the General Public, that in view of a Letter of Administration granted by the High Court of Karnataka to Mr. George Varghese entitling him to all the rights and obligations in respect of Property bearing No. 13, PID No. 92-15-13 situated at Jayamahal Road, Benson Town, Bengaluru-560046 ("**Subject Property**") and accordingly the said Mr. George Varghese is the absolute owner and is in peaceful possession of the Subject Property. It has come to my knowledge that certain transactions are being entered into by unknown persons upon the said Subject Property with the intent of causing mischief. Hence, this public notice is issued to inform and caution the general public not to enter into any transactions in respect of the Subject Property. If any person(s) enters into any transaction in respect of any portion of the Subject Property, he/she shall be doing so at his/her own risk.

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**Joseph Anthony, Advocate**
JSM Law Partners, Miller's Boulevard
Miller's Road, Bangalore-560 052.

The footpath on BEML Main Road in CV Raman Nagar has been encroached upon, forcing pedestrians to walk on the busy road, risking their lives. Approximately 500 meters of this pathway have been taken over by local vendors and hawkers, who sell fruits and vegetables, causing inconvenience to commuters. Locals say the issue cropped up nearly six months ago, and what started as a couple of vendors with their makeshift stalls next to the footpath has now grown to nearly ten vendors using the entire footpath area.

"This is right next to the BEML campus. This is supposed to be a sensitive area considering the presence of entities such as the Indian Space Research Organization and HAL. I noticed the first stall a few months ago. It was one vendor with a pushcart standing next to the footpath on the road. Slowly, the number of pushcarts kept increasing, and now it is a mini market. The market was on the road until two weeks ago. Now, all of them have shifted to the footpath," said a resident of CV Raman Nagar.

The pathway on BEML Main Road in CV Raman Nagar has been taken over by vendors and hawkers

Commuters complain that the illegal market is causing traffic chaos. Vehicles stop abruptly next to the market, and people buy fruits and vegetables from these vendors.

"Approaching vehicles stop on the road to buy fruits and vegetables. This leads to traffic issues. Moreover, with a nearly 500-meter stretch of the footpath completely taken over, pedestrians are forced onto the busy stretch. I have noticed BEML employees walking on the main road, facing the traffic. Even when the stalls are closed, the pushcarts are left behind for the night," said a commuter. Locals lament that while the issue has been present for a few months, no checks have been conducted, and no action has been taken so far.

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### Drain distress
**Koramangala**

Illegal dumping of sand and jelly, blocking and breaking footpath slabs, clogging drains, and increasing garbage dumping at Daffodils Layout, Srinivagilu main road, Koramangala.

### Garbage gloom
**Thanisandra**

Thanisandra area continues to be plagued by garbage accumulation despite regular cleaning efforts by BBMP.

### Naming blunder
**Nandini Layout**

The name of BHEL Officers' Colony has been mistakenly listed as 'Jai Maruti Nagara,' which is a different locality located 300 metres away.

# Journey within budget: Impossible!

## Citizens planning to travel around Independence Day face issues with steep ticket prices

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TWEETS @sridharvMIRROR

With Independence Day just around the corner, travellers are eagerly gearing up for trips beyond the city limits. However, this convenience comes at a steep price, with bus and flight ticket prices soaring to new heights. Meanwhile, train tickets have been snapped up well in advance, leaving last-minute travellers facing exorbitant costs. For instance, a Friday ticket from Bengaluru to Hyderabad was recently priced as high as Rs 3,199. An AC semi-sleeper ticket to Mumbai was listed at a staggering Rs 7,999, while fares for other destinations also saw significant spikes, such as Panjim at Rs 3,800, Chennai at Rs 2,250, Shivamogga at Rs 1,200, Hubballi at Rs 1,600, Mangaluru at Rs 2,100, Udupi at Rs 2,500, Belagavi at Rs 1,900, and Davanagere at Rs 1,200.

Sharing her travel plans, Nitya Kumar, a fashion designer, expressed her frustration, saying, "With the extended weekend, I intended to visit Goa. However, this year has brought quite a shock as the ticket prices have skyrocketed. Even the return tickets for Tuesday night are excessively costly. It's becoming increasingly challenging to secure tickets, and it seems the prices are being hiked significantly. Limited options due to a shortage of buses force travellers to bear these steep costs."

B'luru to Mumbai flight tickets were observed at Rs 13,234 for weekend

Concerned commuters are questioning the state government's inaction in curbing these rising prices.

Vandana K, a techie, voiced her discontent, stating, "The state government frequently announces its intention to conduct surprise checks and regulate private bus operators, ensuring they do not inflate ticket prices during festivals. Yet, these proclamations appear to remain on paper, as no concrete measures have been taken. Many individuals prefer to travel during the weekends, but with such exorbitant ticket prices, it becomes a challenging prospect. The state government ought to establish an upper ceiling for bus ticket prices to prevent private operators from charging excessive amounts for specific destinations. Violators should face penalties."

> **"This period marks a significant surge in demand for bus tickets, naturally driving up prices due to heightened interest**
>
> –a bus operator

She added that, given that not everyone can opt for government buses, private operators are capitalising on commuters' predicaments.

In contrast, a bus operator offered a different perspective, explaining, "This period marks a significant surge in demand for bus tickets, naturally driving up prices due to heightened interest."

Meanwhile, even those opting for air travel have not been spared from the effects of the price surge. Flight ticket prices have also seen a notable increase. For instance, Bengaluru to Mumbai flight tickets were observed at Rs 13,234 for the weekend.

# 9 injured as fire erupts in BBMP office

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TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

A massive fire broke out at the Quality Control Department located within the BBMP headquarters at around 5 pm on Friday. According to the initial probe, an oven blast is suspected to be the cause. In the incident, nine people sustained serious burn injuries. Out of the nine injured, there were two women and seven men.

Chief Engineer Sivakumar was taken directly to Victoria Hospital, and others were given first-aid treatment at Martha's Hospital and were later shifted to Victoria Hospital. Most of the injured have sustained 35–40 per cent burns, and some have suffered from inhalation burns. Doctors say that there are serious burn injuries and run the risk of infection; hence, the critical stage cannot be ruled out. Immediately, a fire engine was requested to douse the fire, but they reported arriving 30 minutes late.

Speaking to reporters, BBMP Chief Commissioner Tushar Girinath said, "Fire broke out on Friday, and several people have suffered burns. A detailed inquiry will be conducted by the electrical inspector to ascertain the exact cause of the breakout."

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# ‘Bloody’ rent row: Tenant turns violent, stabs woman caretaker

## Victim claims police did not register her complaint, rather they tried to extort her

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TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

Caretakers in the city, please be cautious while collecting rent from your tenants. Recently a caretaker of a building in Bandepalya police limits was brutally attacked with a knife by the son of a tenant. The victim, identified as Sridevi N, sustained injuries to her face, hands, and back, and had to be hospitalized for treatment.

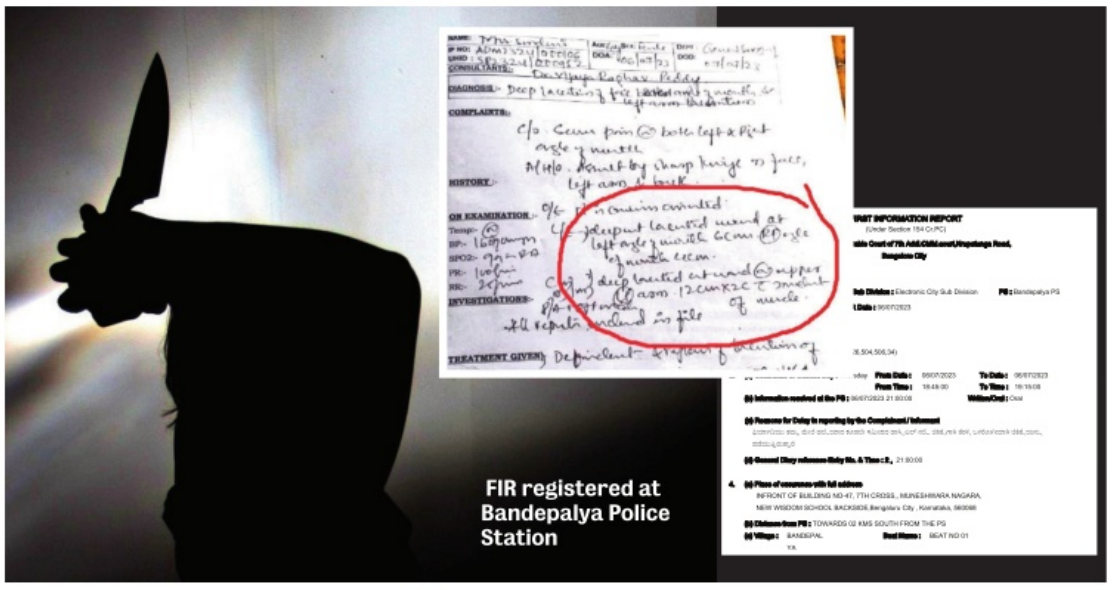
According to a first information report (FIR) registered at Bandepalya Police Station, Sridevi, caretaker of a building, was attacked by Saddam, the son of Nazeer residing at House No. 47, for demanding overdue rent payments.

The police have registered an FIR against Saddam and his father Nazeer under multiple sections of the Indian Penal Code (IPC) 1860 including Sections 341 (wrongful restraint), 326 (voluntarily causing grievous hurt), 504 (insulting intentionally), 506 (criminal intimidation), and 34 (committing criminal act involving two or more persons).

“We have arrested the accused within a few hours of registering the FIR. We registered the FIR immediately after receiving the medical report and complaint from the victim. The accused was sent to judicial custody and the case is pending in the court,” said Bandepalya Police Inspector.

However, the victim has alleged that the police did not register the FIR under Section 307 for attempting to murder her. “I had to spend around Rs 80,000 towards the treatment for injuries. I received no compensation for injuries. I approached the police station seeking suitable action against the accused but a police constable demanded Rs 6,000 towards the expenses of Xerox copies related to her case. Finally, the police took my statement,” said Sridevi.

Condemning the police for demanding money from the victim, Vijay Dennis, founder president of Karnataka RTI Workers Seva Samithi, has said the police should take care of hapless women who approach them for protection and justice, instead of preoccupying themselves with social media.




> **We have arrested the accused within a few hours of registering the FIR. We registered the FIR immediately after receiving the medical report and complaint from the victim**
> –Police inspector

Meanwhile, the police inspector has said that an enquiry has been ordered against the police constable for allegedly demanding money from the complainant. “The enquiry is in progress and suitable action will be taken against the accused if the allegations are proved,” the police inspector said.

He has also stated that the accused family (Nazaaer family) has vacated the house and shifted to another locality. “The main accused is on surveillance. The victim can approach us if she feels insecure,” the police inspector said, adding that the stabbing incident took place last month.

However, Vijay Dennis has said that he wanted to know why the police registered the FIR under Section 326 and others, instead of under Section 307 of the IPC.

## Tug-of-War: Contractors vs. Congress

The tug-of-war between contractors and the Congress government in Karnataka is escalating as the government has decided to withhold contractors’ bills pending investigation over allegations of rampant corruption during the previous BJP government.

The President of Karnataka Contractor Association D. Kempanna on Friday held a press conference and said that the government has not released pending bills for seven months. He asked the government to clear the bills by August 31. Kempanna said that due to the model code of conduct the bills were not cleared a month before the elections. The elections are over and the Siddaramaiah-led government will complete three months on August 20. “No step has been taken in this period to clear bills of contractors,” he said.

He also said that the delegation representing the contractors has also met the Chief Minister and the Deputy Chief Minister twice and asked them to intervene. “The memorandums have also been submitted to RDPR, IT and BT Minister Priyank Kharge and Minister for PWD Satish Jarkiholi. All sought time and then forgot about it. The government has released a circular on June 28 and July 30 in connection with releasing of pending bills but the circular has not been honoured,” he said. He also mentioned that the concerned officials say that there is no order from the concerned ministers to clear the bills. “The government is turning a blind eye to the plight of contractors? The work is done in PWD, water resources, rural development and panchayat raj departments. The contractors have brought crores on loans to work by pledging the properties. –IANS

# Road rage incidents make dashcams all the rage

Abhijeet Kabad
mybangaloremirror@timesgroup.com
TWEETS @BangaloreMirror

As incidents of road rage continue to escalate in Bengaluru, the sale of dashcams has gone up over the last few months. Recently, a video went viral with two miscreants stopping a car in the middle of the road, and attempting to assault the car driver. Many such videos have gone viral over the last few months.

Venugopal, owner of Car Bee Accessories said, “Lately most of the customers who come to the shop, purchase the dashcams for their cars. The reason might be due to the fact that there’s concrete evidence that there’s proof of the incident happening. With a small memory card, data of up to 15 days can be recorded. This is a big advantage for many.”

Imran, owner of Capital Carz said, “There’s been a significant rise in sales of dashcams. Previously we hardly had 1-2 sales every week. But currently, 3-4 dashcams are being sold on a daily basis. This not only adds to their safety but also is proof of the various road rage incidents.”

Dashcams can prove to be the only source of evidence in some cases

With over 35,000 CCTV cameras installed in the city, citizens still do not feel safe regarding road rage incidents. Vineet Kulkarni, a resident of RR Nagar commutes regularly. He said, “Road rages have increased significantly across the city due to the urgency of reaching certain destinations. One observation is that people have stopped obeying traffic laws on a large scale, there is no driving methodology left to see on roads. Dashcams have started playing a vital role for city travellers and tourist travellers. Dashcam is the only source of evidence that proves who’s right and wrong. I believe steps should be taken by lawmakers to reduce road rages and make sure dashcams are now an integral part of new car delivery.”

> **I believe steps should be taken by lawmakers to reduce road rages and make sure dashcams are now an integral part of new car delivery**
> –Vineet Kulkarni, RR Nagar resident

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# Tanker in-charge stalls questions on illegal dumping

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Based on information received from reliable sources, the team of Bangalore Mirror visited Bannerghatta Road on Monday night. The team waited near the Dairy Circle for the tankers to come out of the Namma Metro construction site carrying the excavated material (bentonite). The team followed the two tankers (KA 03 AD 9995 and KA40 3831). As per the data available with the Transport Department, the tanker (KA40 3831) belongs to Mohan M.

KAUSHIK JN

This is the drain where the sludge was dumped; a close up shows the slimy matter sticking on to the drain walls

As per an agreement between Bangalore Metro Rail Corporation Limited and M/s Afcons Infrastructure Limited, the tankers have to take the excavated material (Bentonite) to a designated dump yard at Mylasandra which is situated around 30 km from the construction site. The BMRCL pays Rs 4,800 per tanker for each trip. However, the contractors engaged by Afcons Infrastructure Limited are releasing the excavated material into the roadside drains near Indian Institute of Management and Rainbow Hospital on Bannerghatta Road.

The saga of polluting and clogging roadside drains starts anywhere between 9 pm and 10 pm depending on traffic on Bannerghatta Road. If there is more traffic on the road, the process gets delayed. The drivers halt tankers on roadside preferably at unlit stretches on Bannerghatta Road. They get down from the vehicle on the pretext of attending nature's call. After carefully observing the surroundings, the driver opens the valve to release waste material (bentonite) into the drain. The process is over within 10 to 15 minutes.

It also shows that Afcons Infrastructure Limited has failed to keep an eye on the tankers engaged for transporting the excavated material. Generally, it takes more than two hours for a tanker to unload the excavated material at the designated location (Mylasandra) and return to the construction site. However, these tankers, after unloading the excavated material into the roadside drain, return to the construction site within half an hour but no questions are asked as to why the tankers have returned to the construction site within half-an-hour.

When informed, Mr Madhukar, in-charge of tankers, assured us that he would revert in 30 minutes but did not bother to honour his promise. When we reminded him after 45 minutes, he asked this correspondent to provide the registration numbers of the tankers and again assured us that he would revert but he failed again to honour his commitment of providing information on the measures to be taken to ensure that tankers unload the excavated material at the designated location.

Meanwhile, Nagesh Aras, an environmentalist, said that releasing sludge or sewage into the drains has become routine in the city. "One can find tankers releasing pollutants into the drain near the Football Stadium," said Nagesh Aras.

He said that releasing excavated material into the drain pollutes water bodies. "If the excavated material is released into the drain, it will become tough for BBMP workers to remove silt from the drain. It will be tougher than removing sewage or silt from the drain," he said.

Stating that no one is authorised to release excavated material into the roadside drain, BBMP Chief Engineer (Storm Water Drains) BS Prahlad said that he would look into the matter. "We will initiate suitable action against those responsible for releasing excavated material into the roadside drain," he said.

# Puncture technique

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

must consider putting up tyre killers to deter such behaviour," he said.

On the other hand, Shabrin, an IT employee said that the same tyre killers can be installed on pavements and cycle tracks to curb two-wheelers from encroaching onto them. "A similar mechanism can be evolved, which will only affect two-wheelers that choose to ride on footpaths or cycle tracks in the city," she said, noting that the footpath encroachment by two-wheelers is life threatening for pedestrians.

Shashidhar, a resident from Nagarbhavi, said that the consequences of tyre killers must be thoroughly studied in the city before implementation. The Bengaluru Traffic Police (BTP) can instead designate a traffic police at spots that are known to witness wrong direction driving or riding, he said. "There may be emergencies that need to be taken into consideration. Repair of tyres damaged due to the killers will also be an expensive ordeal that many may not be able to afford," he said.

Apart from the city of Ahmedabad, tyre killers have priorly been implemented in Pune and Noida. However, authorities have raised concerns with regard to safety of its usage. The Pune police have resorted to banning the tool considering the risk of injury to the ones who drive in the wrong direction.


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**I,** Guruvendra Shetti S/o Krishnappa Shetty R/o No.82, 82/1, 9th block, Nagarabhavi, 2nd stage, Bengaluru 560072 have changed my name to GURUVENDRA SHETTY affidavit Dt.11/08/2023 notary Harisha G, B'luru

**I,** Muthukumar M R/o Apt 203, wings, No.16/1, Cambridge Road, Halasur, Bengaluru 560008 have changed my minor daughter name from SHRIYA to SHRIYA MUTHUKUMAR affidavit Dt.11/08/2023 notary Harisha G, B'luru

**I,** Yash S/o Hanuman Prasad Gupta R/o 302, Building No.37, 3rd Cross Road, Ambalipura Residency, Harlur Road, Ambalipura, Bengaluru, Karnataka-560102, have changed my name to Yash Gupta

**I** Panimaya Stephen Maria Doss S/O, Maria Doss R/o 429 5th Cross, Kuvempu Nagar, Ramamurthy Nagar, Bangalore-560016 have changed my name to Panimaya Stephen.

**I** Bhardwaj S/O, Raja Shambhu Bhat R/o Flat No 204, Bombay House, 55/15, Kanakpura Road, Basavangudi, Bangalore, 560004 have changed my name to Bhardwaj Bhat.

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## SANDALWOOD SHOTS
Y MAHESWARA REDDY

### Ideal pair

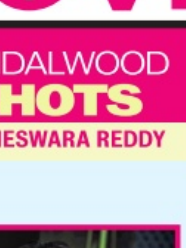
Journalist-cum-actor Naveen Shankar is all excited about the release of his latest movie Kshetrapati on August 18. Kshetrapati is based on agrarian problems and most of its shooting was held in North Karnataka. Archana Jois is paired opposite Naveen Shankar for the second time in this film after Hondisi Bareyiri. "I am happy to share the screen with Archana Jois for the second time. She is a very good actress," said Naveen Shankar.

He was speaking at the function held to launch a song and trailer of Kshetrapati on Thursday night. "Director Srikant Katagi approached me with two scripts. I selected this script which is very close to my heart," he said.

Recalling their struggle to find a producer for this movie, he said: "We decided to invest money to make a trailer to screen it for prospective producers. That is how we got a few people to bankroll this movie," he said.

Archana said she was happy to share the screen with Naveen. "The director and hero of this movie narrated the script to my parents, after which my parents asked me to act in this movie. I play a journalist," she said.

### Teaser soon



Anjan aka Rural Star Anjan is all set to appear in a different avatar. Arrangements are being made to release the teaser of his latest movie Chola on August 20. Suresh DM, who has bankrolled Ranahedi and Prayanikara Gamanakke under the Srushti Enterprises banner, debuts as director in Sandalwood with Chola.

Though the title Chola may make audiences think that the movie is a historical story, it is said that the movie is about the present generation and has all elements such as love, sentiment, and action.

"The movie has all the ingredients needed to entertain mass as well as class audiences. I watched Anjan's movie Yerra Birri. Impressed by his acting skills, I selected him to play the lead in this movie," said director Suresh. Disha Pandey, who plays the heroine in Bombay Mittai and a few Tamil movies, is paired opposite Anjan. Prathibha is the second heroine in this movie.

Dinesh Mangaluru and Raja Balwadi are playing villains while Manmohan Roy, Maja Bharatha fame Jagappa, Minchu, Vardhan Theerthahalli are the other cast in this movie. The shooting of Chola is in progress and the movie's soundtrack is expected to be released after the shooting is over.

# Winners take them all

## Rani Mukerji, Vijay Varma, 'Sita Ramam' & 'Jubilee' win top honours at IFFM

Rani Mukerji was named the Best Actress In Film (Female), Vijay Varma as Best Actor (Male) In Series took home the top honours at the 14th edition of Indian Film Festival of Melbourne (IFFM).

Rani won for 'Mrs Chatterjee Vs Norway' and Mohit Agarwal took home the award for Best Performance in Film (Male) for 'Agra'.

While 'Sita Ramam' was announced the Best Film, 'Agra' the Best Indie Film, Kannada Filmmaker Prithvi Konanur was feted with Best Director.

'To Kill A Tiger' took home the Best Documentary. Vijay Varma for 'Dahaad' and Rajshri Deshpande for 'Trial By Fire' were named as Best Performance (Male) and Best Performance (Female) in a series respectively.

Period Drama 'Jubilee' starring Prosenjit Chatterjee, Aparshakti Khurana, Sidhant Gupta, Aditi Rao Hydari, Wamiqa Gabbi and Ram Kapoor was tagged as the Best Series.

Best Short Film - People's Choice honour was won by 'Connection Kya Hain' andBest Short Film - Australia was 'Home' by Mark Russel Bernard.

Equality in Cinema Awards went to the movie 'Darlings', People's Choice Award was given to SRK-starrer 'Pathaan'.

Filmmaker Karan Johar was honoured for completing 25 years in the Hindi film industry.

Bollywood's chocolate boy Kartik Aaryan was honoured with Rising Global Superstar of Indian Cinema.

Diversity in Cinema Award went to Mrunal Thakur, Bhumi Pednekar took home the Disruptor Award and Rainbow Stories Award went to Onir for 'Pine Cone'.

—IANS

# Better late than never

Tiger Shroff is currently Indian film industry's young action super star. With fabulous performances, risky stunts and incredible dancing skills, the young sensation has made an impactful mark in the industry with an extensive base of fans of all ages.Along with being a fantastic actor and action hero, Tiger Shroff is renowned for having amazing fashion sense and time and again the superstar has impressed us with his fashion side.

As the Barbie trend is going on everywhere and we can see everyone from the industry joining the trend, the youngest action star Tiger Shroff too has joined the much popular trend. Taking to his social media, Tiger Shroff posted a series of pictures where he is seen suit up in a complete pink three piece suit.

Sharing the pictures, Tiger Shroff captioned it:"Is it too late to join the Barbie party?"

Tiger Shroff is simply slaying in this pink suit paired with a shimmery shirt, leaving all the girls swooning over the actor and how!

Meanwhile, Tiger Shroff is currently shooting for his upcoming action thriller 'Bade Miyan Chote Miyan' in the UK along with the entire film team. Also gearing up for an interesting lineup of films including 'Ganapath', amongst many others unannounced.

—ETimes

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# BENGALURU SPEAKS

and gets heard on this page

## STORYBEHINDTHEPHOTO

**NETWORKING**

A tiny spider in its web decorated by rain drops

The picture was clicked by BM reader **P Adithya**

If you have a picture and a story to share, send us the picture with your name and number at **mybangaloremirror@timesgroup.com**

# Alert: It's web of danger here

## Citizens raise concerns about reckless hanging of cables in Indiranagar; directives of HC gone unheeded: activists

Cables are hanging near Montfort School, Binnamangala in Indiranagar

| Sridhar Vivan
sridhar.vivan
@timesgroup.com
TWEETS @sridharvMirror

Dangerously hanging cables near Montfort School on Old Madras Road, Binnamangala in Indiranagar, are posing a severe threat to the safety of both schoolchildren and the general public. A BM reader said, "The irresponsible installation and upkeep of optical fibre cables (OFC) by ISPs, telecoms, and cable TV service providers have led to numerous fatal incidents, and the lack of a lasting solution is deeply concerning."

Others explained that the cables act as a hindrance to pedestrians.

Devaraj R, a resident of the area, said, "The cables have been neglected for an extended period, forcing pedestrians to navigate through already congested roads, thus subjecting them to constant risk. The deteriorated condition of footpaths, compounded by exposed drains, further imperils pedestrians. The streets themselves are marred by potholes, leaving no room for pedestrians due to the heavy traffic flow."

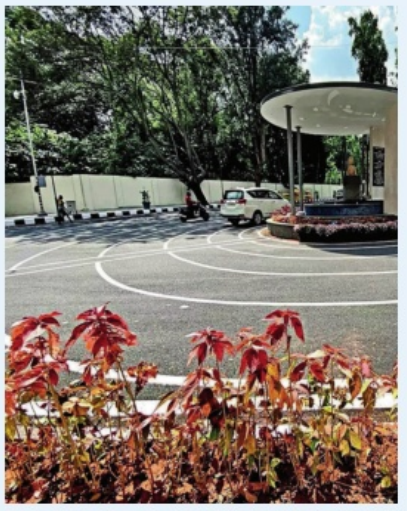
> **"The cables have been neglected for an extended period, subjecting pedestrians to constant risk**
>
> – Devaraj R, a resident

According to sources, although explicit instructions were issued to clear unauthorised cables within set deadlines for TV cable operators, internet service providers, and other stakeholders, regrettably, no tangible steps have been taken to address the issue.

Naveen K, an activist, said, "Even the directives from the Karnataka High Court on August 3 and 24, 2021, demanding the removal of unauthorised TV and OFC cables hanging from electric poles, trees, and pedestrian paths in BBMP limits have gone unheeded.

The past assurances made by BBMP officials regarding the removal of such unauthorised cables and the possible legal action against the responsible parties remain unfulfilled, raising significant concerns about the safety and well-being of the citizens."

## DID YOU KNOW?



RT Nagar stands for Rabindranath Tagore Nagar, which is one of the most popular neighbourhoods in north Bengaluru. The area has two blocks and is near several other areas like Hebbal, JC Nagar, New BEL Road, Sadashivanagar, Jayamahal, Devanahalli, Mekhri Circle, Sanjay Nagar, and more. The neighbourhood has served as a residential place for many notable personalities, such as Dharam Singh, Veerappa Moily, DB Chandre Gowda, and many others. It is also one of the major commercial hubs and has St Jude's Church. It is also known to have numerous educational institutions, including the Rajiv Gandhi Institute of Technology.

## GET HEARD WITH MIRROR

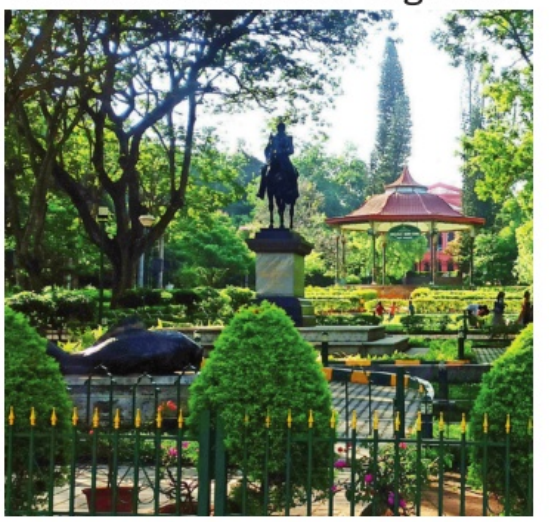
**9591233247**

Let's see how much you know about Namma Bengaluru, folks. Tell us something incredible and mind-boggling about this beautiful city and our editors and researchers will check it out. If it's credible, we'll give it a shout-out, with your name and picture.

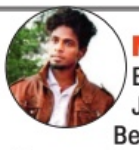
## TAPTHECHATTER

where Bengalureans speak their mind

### Given a single day in Bengaluru, which are the places that you would advise a visitor to go see?

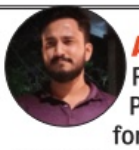


**Rachana Amladi, BM Reader**
Bengaluru offers a rich tapestry of attractions. For newcomers, must-see spots include the serene Sankey Tank and hidden gems like the artistic Malleswaram neighbourhood and the historic Bull Temple.



**Melwin, BM Reader**
Experience Bengaluru's wonders: Jawaharlal Nehru Planetarium, Bengaluru Fort and Palace's history, Hesaraghatta Lake's tranquilly, innovative BIEC, and the lush escape of Cubbon Park. A captivating day awaits!

**Kumar, BM Reader**
Marvel at Nandi Hills' beauty, relive history at Bangalore Palace, find solace at the Adi Yogi statue, and seek spirituality at Iskcon and Shivagange temples—Bengaluru's diverse charm in a day.



**Aditya Kapnadak, BM Reader**
Ride to Nandi Hills. Breakfast at IPC Paratha Company Visit VV Puram for street food, CTR, or Veena Stores for dosa and idlis. For nightlife, see Church Street, Koramangala, and Indiranagar.

**Clinton, BM Reader**
Visit Jawaharlal Nehru Planetarium, Bengaluru Fort, Hesaraghatta Lake, Bangalore International Centre, and Cubbon Pete for an awesome day in Bengaluru.

### SPEAK TO US

What are the greatest infrastructural wonders of Bengaluru and what are the worst?

If you want to be featured in this section, mail us your answer to this question, in 25 words, with 'Tap The Chatter' in the subject line. Mail us with your name, occupation & a picture at mybangaloremirror@timesgroup.com or WhatsApp us on 9591233247

**HEALTH TIP:** Fruits like green bananas and apples boost gut health as they contain things like pectin and starch that exert a prebiotic effect

Lutein and zeaxanthin are the yellow carotenoids found in corn and peppers. The two help support vision, especially among older adults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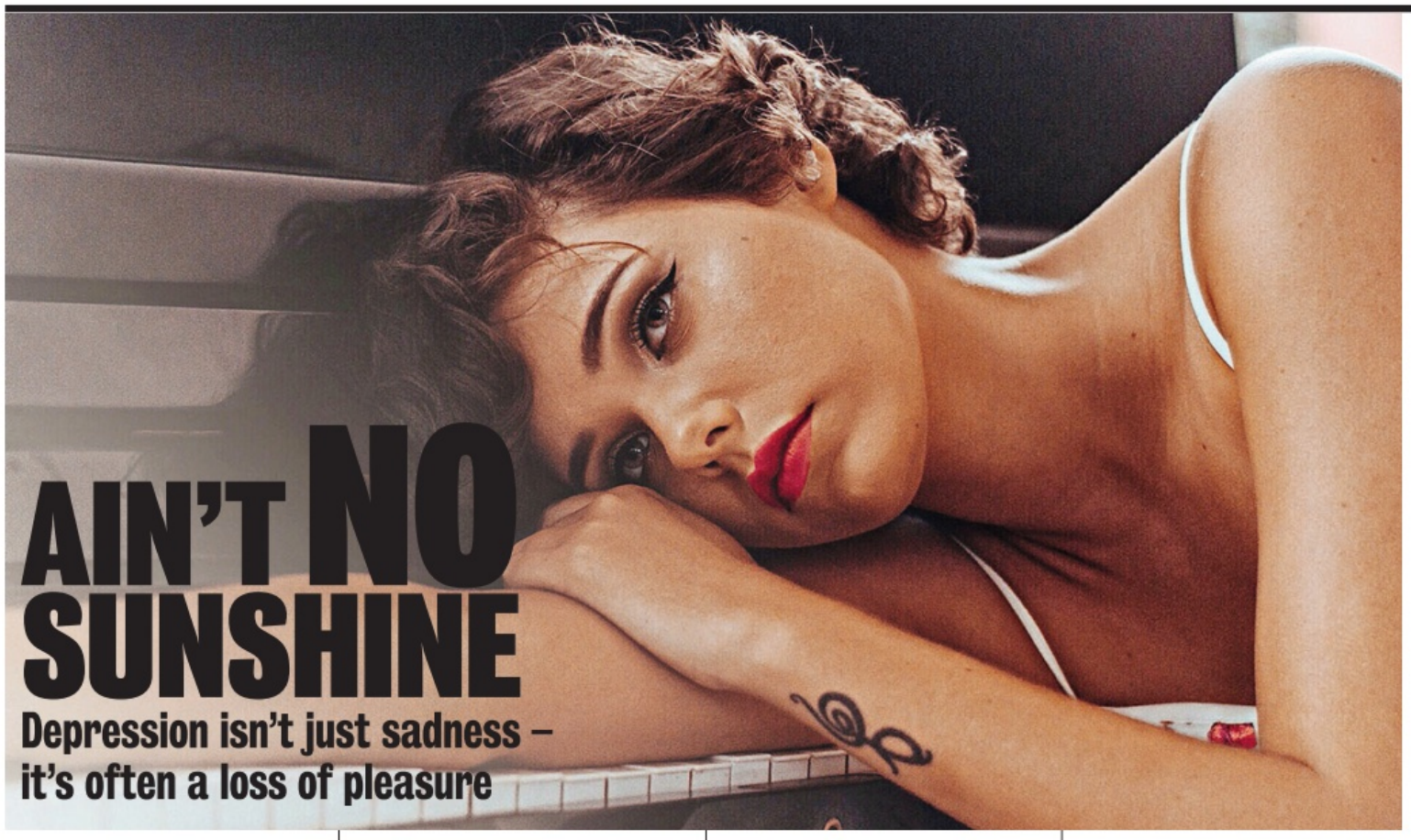

# AIN'T NO SUNSHINE

## Depression isn't just sadness – it's often a loss of pleasure

It's often thought that if someone is depressed, they will feel sad or low most of the time. But what many don't realise is that these aren't the only symptoms of depression. Another common symptom of depression that is sometimes overlooked is the feeling that you no longer find the things you used to enjoy to be interesting or pleasurable.

Known as anhedonia, this symptom is present in up to 75% of adults and young people with depression. But despite how common this symptom is, it remains one of the most difficult symptoms to treat and manage.

### Loss of pleasure

Anhedonia is defined as the reduced interest or pleasure in all – or almost all – activities a person previously enjoyed. If a person has anhedonia for an extended period of time (at least two weeks consistently), they can be diagnosed with depression – even if they may not feel sad or low.

Although mainly associated with depression, anhedonia can also be a symptom of other disorders – such as schizophrenia, anxiety and Parkinson's disease.

In in-depth interviews my colleagues and I conducted with young people about depression, anhedonia was described by many as not just a loss of joy, but also less motivation to do things. For some, this lack of drive was only related to specific things – such as going to school or seeing friends. But for others, it was more severe, and they felt they didn't want to do anything at all – not even live.

But despite how troubling anhedonia can be, it's often not the main target of depression treatment.

It's recommended that cases of mild depression are treated with talking therapy. People with more moderate or severe cases of depression may be prescribed antidepressants.

While all these treatments aim to help patients cope with and overcome symptoms, over half of people with depression don't respond to their first recommended treatment. Even after changing treatments, approximately 30% of patients still experience symptoms.

It's been argued that one reason for these low response rates may be because current treatment techniques don't adequately target anhedonia. Research also shows that having anhedonia predicts chronic relapsing of depression. It's even possible that some antidepressant treatments might make anhedonia worse.

Why might this be? One possibility is that current standard treatments focus mainly on treating the depressed mood and brain processes that underpin low mood – but not anhedonia. For example the main aim of talking therapies, such as cognitive behavioural therapy, is to reduce negative thinking in patients. The most common antidepressant medications also mainly target serotonin, which is thought to underpin in part, how the brain processes negative information.

But as anhedonia is reduced joy in life, treatments such as behavioural activation (a form of talking therapy) could be better for anhedonia. This is because behavioural activation aims to help people with depression take simple, practical steps towards enjoying life again. Yet some studies find behavioural activation is no better than standard treatments in managing anhedonia. This might be because the very nature of anhedonia includes a lack of motivation – making it difficult for patients to engage in any therapy, even forms which may most benefit them.

Anhedonia has also been linked to dysfunctional reward mechanisms in the brain. As such, treatments which focus more on improving the way the brain processes reward could help alleviate anhedonia more effectively than current treatments.

But the brain's reward system isn't straightforward, and actually involves various subprocesses – including anticipation, motivation, pleasure and learning about reward. Problems with any one of these subprocesses could be contributing to anhedonia. As such, it will be important for research to uncover how these subprocesses operate in people with anhedonia to develop better targets for treatment.

### Treatment options

While anhedonia may be complex, that doesn't mean there's no hope for those who are affected by it.

For instance, research shows that talking therapies which focus on reward processing could help reduce anhedonia. A recent pilot study also found that a new type of talk therapy called augmented depression therapy may work better than cognitive behavioural therapy in treating depression. This is because augmented depression therapy specifically targets anhedonia by having patients focus on both their negative and positive experiences.

Further, antidepressants that target neurotransmitters involved in the reward system (such as dopamine) might be better suited for patients with anhedonia. Early work examining drugs such as ketamine, which can affect dopamine activity, suggest it may have promise for treating anhedonia.

And while it can be hard to find motivation if you're experiencing anhedonia, trying to find time for fun, enjoyable activities or experiences like a hobby you used to love – or even a new hobby – could help alleviate anhedonia.

*(By Ciara McCabe, University of Reading, The Conversation)*

## MIRRORLIGHTS

### Study links common cold virus to potentially fatal blood clotting disorder

Researchers have for the first time found an association with adenovirus infection, the common respiratory virus that causes mild cold-and flu-like symptoms, with blood clots and severe thrombocytopenia -- low platelet levels in the body.

The study, published in the New England Journal of Medicine presents case reports of two patients shedding new light on the virus and its role in causing an anti-platelet factor 4 (PF4) disorder.

"This adenovirus-associated disorder is now one of four recognised anti-PF4 disorders," said Stephan Moll, Professor of medicine at the University of North Carolina in the US.

"We hope that our findings will lead to earlier diagnosis, appropriate and optimised treatment, and better outcomes in patients who develop this life-threatening disorder," Moll added.

In anti-PF4 disorders, the person's immune system makes antibodies against platelet factor-4, a protein that is released by platelets. When an antibody forms against PF4 and binds to it, this can trigger the activation and rapid removal of platelets in the bloodstream, leading to blood clotting and low platelets, respectively.

—IANS

## All you need to know about...

*Yoga for lungs*

**Breathing practice**

Yoga and breathing control practices, in combination with aerobic training, are key for asthmatic people seeking to improve their lung function, a new peer-reviewed study has suggested.

**Exercise training**

The research, published in the journal Annals of Medicine, highlights the importance of integrating appropriate exercise training into asthma management plans. "The findings demonstrate just how effective specific types of exercise training can be to enhance lung function for those with adults," said lead author Shuangtao Xing, Associate Professor at the School of Physical Education at Henan Normal University in China. "Breathing training combined with aerobic training, and yoga training, appear to be particularly advantageous -- offering potential avenues for effective treatment approaches," he added.

**Asthma attacks**

Asthma affects around 339 million people worldwide, causes symptoms such as coughing, wheezing, shortness of breath and chest tightness.

In the past, exercise was considered a potential risk factor for individuals with asthma, as it was believed to trigger or worsen acute asthma attacks.

**5 types of exercises are effective**

To address this issue, the current study included a total of 28 RCTs involving 2,155 people with asthma and examined the effects of breathing training, aerobic training, relaxation training, yoga training, and breathing combined with aerobic training, on lung function.

All five types of exercise interventions demonstrated greater effectiveness in improving lung function measurements compared to the conventional rehabilitation control group.

—IANS

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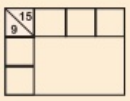
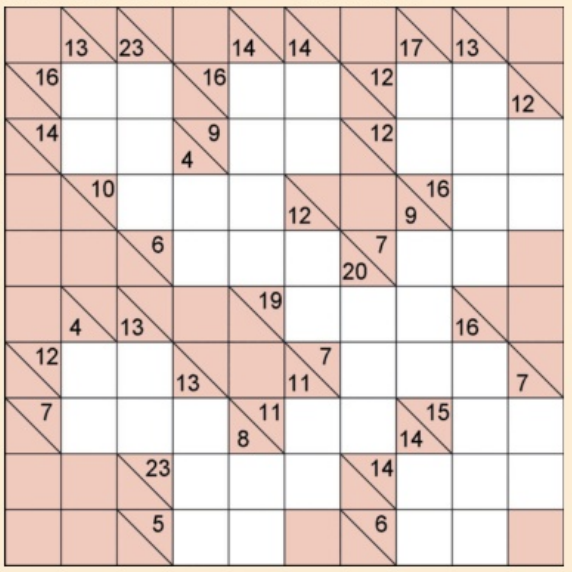
## Kakuro

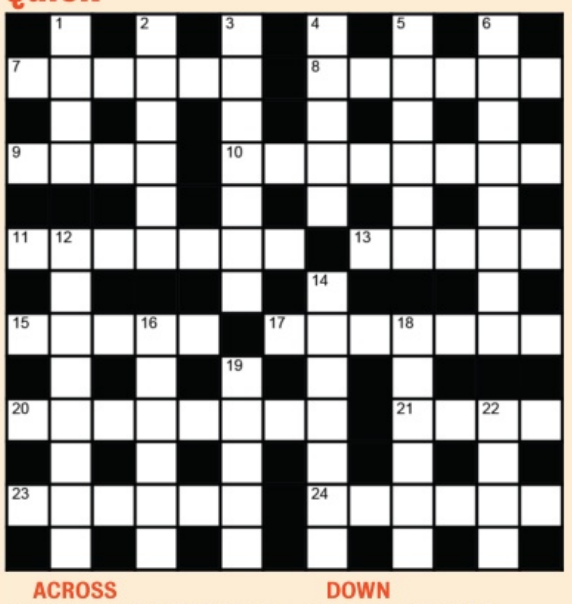
The numbers in the grey squares refer to the sums of the digits that you must fill into the empty spaces directly below or to the right of the grey square containing the number. For instance, in the given example, the 3 boxes horizontally next to 15 must contain 3 digits that add up to 15, whereas for 9, it is the 2 boxes placed vertically under it that must add up to 9. No zeros are used here, only the digits 1 through 9.



Note: A digit cannot appear more than once in any particular digit combination. For instance, in the example, we cannot have the combination of 4+7+4 for 15.



## Quick



**ACROSS**

7 Japanese number puzzle (6)
8 Small whirlpools (6)
9 Gusto (4)
10 Customary, conventional or normal in day to day life (8)
11 Spar supporting sail (4-3)
13 Mine entrances (5)
15 Hurried or quick (5)
17 Famous French artist (7)
20 Indian holy city (8)
21 Mischievous sprite (4)
23 Seinfeld regular (6)
24 Nonsense or paradoxical (6)

**DOWN**

1 Monsoon month (4)
2 Keep me ___ : supply me with latest information periodically (6)
3 Pen ___ : clerical workers? (7)
4 Manage but not very successfully? (3,2)
5 Got the paper ready for mass consumption, in a way? (6)
6 Meetings for boat races (8)
12 Indian mountain range (8)
14 Dynasty which ruled the Kingdom of Mysore from 1399 to 1947 (7)
16 Extremely sad (6)
18 Mischievous, elfish (6)
19 Breathing sounds (5)
22 Spiral lock of hair (4)

## Quoteuncode

This puzzle is a substitution cipher in which one letter stands for another. If you think that Q equals C, it will equal C throughout the puzzle. Single letters, short words and words using an apostrophe give you clues to locating vowels. Solution is by trial and error.

**Today's CLUE: O EQUALS C**

DFP OSH'M BGYSXSMG YGSOG RXFN RXGGLFN CGOSPBG HF FHG OSH CG SM YGSOG PH-VGBB WG WSB WUB RXGGLFN.

## Linemaro

I never loved you any more than I do, right this second. And I'll never love you any less than I do, right this second

## Mindchow

The only way to keep your health is to eat what you don't want, drink what you don't like and do what you'd rather not

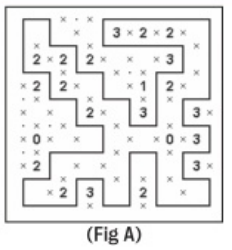
## Joke of the day

Weather forecast for tonight: Dark

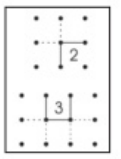
## Loop

**Rules**

» Connect adjacent dots with vertical or horizontal lines, creating a single loop (Fig A). » Crossovers or branches are not allowed (As shown by dotted lines in Fig B). » Numbers in the puzzle indicate the number of lines that should surround it, while empty cells may be surrounded by any number of lines. » You can't draw lines around zeros. » Each puzzle has just one unique solution.



(Fig A)

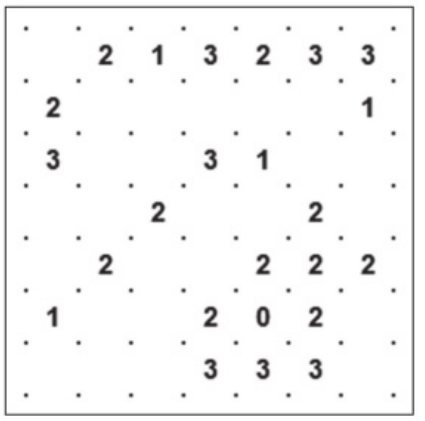


(Fig B) Not Allowed

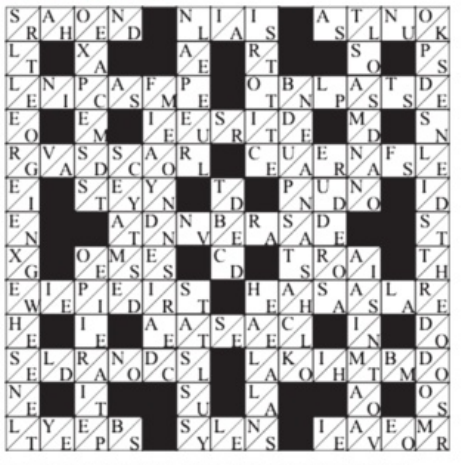
**How to begin:**

Example (Fig A) – Begin with the zero next to 3. Since no lines can be drawn around zero, mark crosses around it, as shown. Now there is a cross in one space around 3. So we know the three lines of 3 can only be drawn in the remaining three spaces. Next, these lines can only be extended in one direction each. Continue, using the same logic.

Hints: Keep eliminating possibilities by marking crosses in spaces between dots where a line isn't possible, i.e., if you have already completed required lines or where a line extension may create a branch or cause a dead-end (Fig B)



## Strikeout



This crossword has no clues and the answer is there waiting for you. All you have to do is find it in each square. You have a choice of two letters, one of which you must strike out. If you choose correctly, you will be left with a grid that contains real words.

## Fast five

How long do you think it will take you to unscramble the ten words shown below and fit them correctly into the grid in the order given one letter has already been entered to get you started? on your marks, get set...

| | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | 2 B | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| 6 | | | | |
| 7 | | | | |
| 8 | | | | |
| 9 | | | | |

**ACROSS**

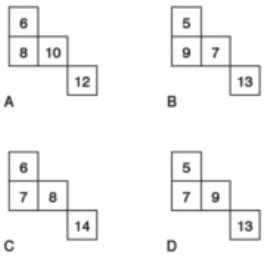
1 So bee; 6 Call E;
7 Baits; 8 No ade;
9 De Low

**DOWN**

1 To cad; 2 A bone;
3 Bowel; 4 Delis;
5 Lease

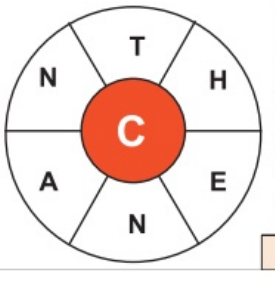
## Mensapuzzle

Which is the missing section?




| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | 2 | 4 | 7 |
| 4 | ? | 7 | 10 |
| 6 | ? | ? | 12 |
| 7 | 8 | 10 | ? |

## Bull's eye




How many words of four or more letters can you make from the letters shown? Every word must contain the central letter. There should be one seven-letter word. British English Dictionary is used as a reference.

10 Average; 11 Good; 13 Outstanding

## SudokuChallenge

| | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | 9 | | | 7 | | | 5 | |
| 4 | 1 | | | | | | 6 | 8 |
| | | 7 | 6 | | 8 | 9 | | |
| 6 | | | 9 | | 3 | | | 1 |
| | | 8 | | | | 3 | | |
| 1 | | | 5 | | 7 | | | 6 |
| | | 1 | 7 | | 5 | 8 | | |
| 2 | 5 | | | | | | 9 | 7 |
| | 8 | | | 2 | | | 3 | |

To solve a Sudoku puzzle, every digit from one to nine must appear in each of the nine vertical columns, in each of the nine horizontal rows and in each of the nine boxes.

## Gofigure

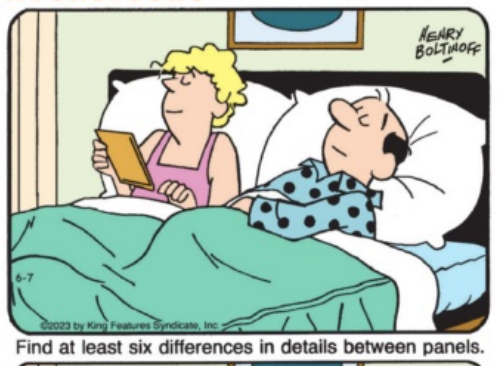
Place the four numbers in the first, third, fifth, and seventh boxes and whatever operators you care to use in the second, fourth, and sixth boxes in the correct order to get the answer. Use the numbers only once.

Easy = 11
3 6 7 9

Medium = 3
3 3 5 8

Hard = 40
5 7 8 7

## Hocusfocus




Find at least six differences in details between panels.

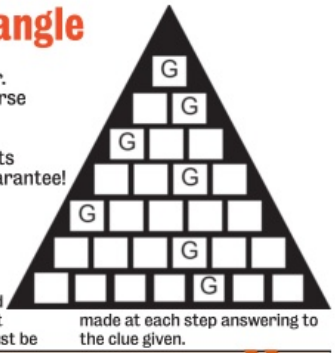
**Differences:** 1. Hand is moved. 2. Pillow is smaller. 3. Mattress is thicker. 4. Headboard is wider. 5. Finger is moved. 6. Hair is longer.

## Riddler

High above the lowly earth, and yet I flourish for all I'm worth. I hang between the earth and sky, green or brown as the seasons pass by. As around me all the birds do fly, and just before winter, away go I. Tell me true, what am I?

## Alpha triangle

1 1000 colloquially
2 For example, abbr.
3 Command to a horse
4 Border
5 Avarice
6 Record of accounts
7 One giving the guarantee!



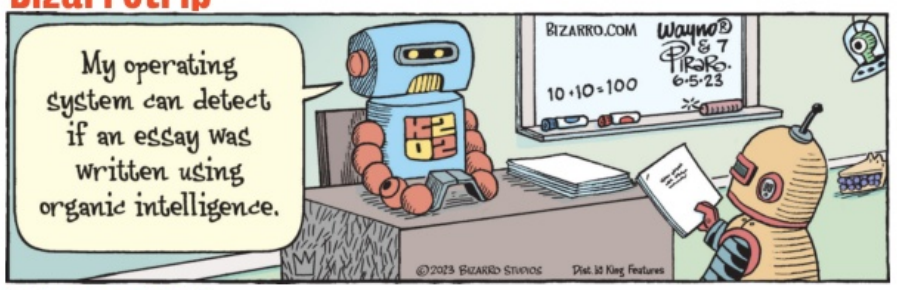

Beginning at the top move towards the bottom seven-letter word by adding a letter at each step and rearranging. A correct and different word must be made at each step answering to the clue given.


DIFFICULT TO SOLVE? FIND THESE SOLUTIONS ON THE NEXT PAGE

# COMICS

## Redeye by Mel Casson

## Bizarrotrip


My operating system can detect if an essay was written using organic intelligence.
BIZARRO.COM
10+10=100
Wayno & Piraro 6-5-23
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Dist. by King Features

## Diamond Lil

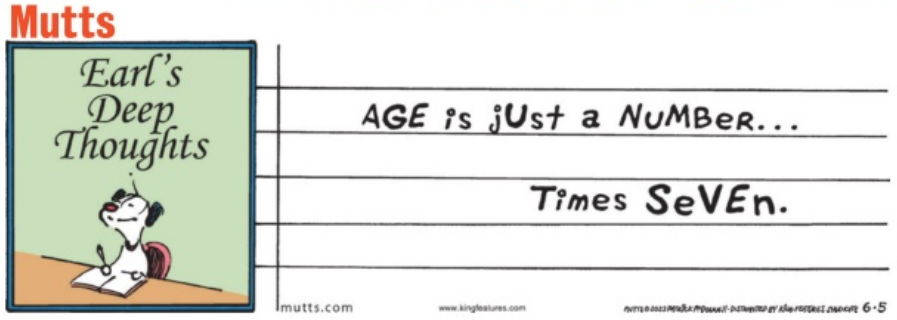
I THINK MY GIRLFRIEND MIGHT BE CHEATING ON ME
WHY DO YOU THINK THAT?
ON OUR LAST DATE SHE BROUGHT A PLUS-ONE
©2023 creators.com 6/15
www.creators.com
Bramlett

## Hart of the city

## Crankshaft

I'VE GOT GOOD NEWS AND BAD NEWS... THE BAD NEWS IS THAT WHEN I WROTE THE CHECK TO 'BEAN'S END'...
I APPARENTLY PUT DOWN THE INVOICE NUMBER FOR THE AMOUNT!
WHAT'S THE GOOD NEWS?
IT'S EARLY IN THE YEAR, AND THE INVOICE NUMBERS WERE STILL PRETTY LOW!
BATIUK & DAVIS tombatiuk.com/books

## Mutts




# WHAT YOUR STARS SAY TODAY

**Aries** Mar 21 – Apr 20
Today your plans will not work on a professional front, which will make you arrogant. You should try to avoid taking important decisions in terms of investment and relationships. Couples and love birds should try to avoid making arguments to maintain harmony in the relationships. Students should not choose shortcuts in their studies.

**Taurus** Apr 21 – May 20
Today's moon will make you more sensitive and emotional. You should avoid investing into real estate or other assets. You should take care of your parent's health. You will expect some delay in your work also, you shall face it with patience. On the professional front, you should not be indecisive.

**Gemini** May 21 – Jun 21
Today you will be glad; you will be able to maintain a balance between your earning and expenditure, which will boost your finances. Your network will help you to implement your plans. Your siblings and subordinate staff will be more helpful today. Plan to visit elders or religious places.

**Cancer** Jun 22 – July 23
Today your energy level will be high, so it will make you happy and optimistic to fulfil your desires with the help of hard work. You will plan to go for outings with friends and family to share your happiness. Students will see good news in terms of study.

**Leo** Jul 24 – Aug 23
Today until late afternoon is not good; you may feel unhappy and become nervous, but after noon onwards, you will be more happy. Internal vitality will boost your self confidence; you should avoid carelessness in making decisions in terms of finance, profession and studies. Sometimes, you may face self respect issues with your spouse, and need to keep patience to avoid converting happy moments into bad moments. Love birds will plan for short trips.

**Virgo** Aug 24 – Sep 23
Today your tendency to overspend will affect your savings. You should be careful while expressing yourself on the work and domestic front. You should avoid lending money. You should postpone making important decisions in real estate and other assets issues. You should try to avoid a tendency of elevation from your responsibilities.

**Libra** Sep 24 – Oct 22
Today at social get together you will re-establish your network, which will give you benefits in near future. Natives related to glamour, art, fashion will plan to do something new in terms of their profession. Students will perform better today in terms of study. Love birds will enjoy their happy moments.

**Scorpio** Oct 23 – Nov 22
Today will be a busy day for you in terms of work; overload may make you tired but you will enjoy your work. You will be good. You will not spend money on worthless stuff. You will be more polite with your family, friends and loved ones. You may also get some good news from family members.

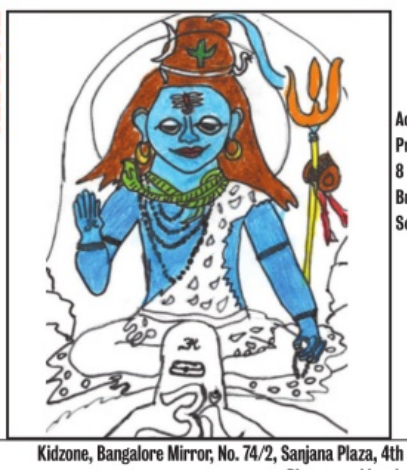
**Sagittarius** Nov 23 – Dec 22
Today, blessings from elders will give you confidence. You shall follow your intuition before taking any initiative, which will help you in your work. Your intuition will help to gain more in terms of finance. You will plan to visit some religious places with your family members. You shall control your arrogance to enjoy your domestic life. Students will expect good results with the help of destiny.

**Capricorn** Dec 23 – Jan 20
Today before noon, you may feel happy and will enjoy your work; afternoon onwards, negative feelings will make you dull, which will affect your professional life, you will expect some domestic argument also. You shall avoid lending money to any one; it might not be recoverable easily. You will analyse yourself and figure out your negativities. Occult sciences will attract you today in terms of study.

**Aquarius** Jan 21 – Feb 19
Today you are blessed by the moon. You will be in a very good mood this morning. You will be more romantic; it will fill harmony in our domestic life. Your patience will help you to do your best professionally. You will see some coordination with your colleagues and business partners.

**Pisces** Feb 20 – Mar 20
You will be successful to control leakage and worthless expenditure, which will boost your bank balance. You should be careful of your kids' health. Singles can unexpectedly progress in terms of marriage. People related to travel, diplomats, and supply chain will do better. You should be careful of stomach issues.

## KIDZONE



Adithya Prasad, 8 Years, Brigade School

Soumadeep Bhattacharya, 10 Years, Ooty Convent

Kidzone, Bangalore Mirror, No. 74/2, Sanjana Plaza, 4th & 5th Floor, Elephant Rock Road, Jayanagar 3rd block, Bengaluru- 560 011;
Please send hard copies of your artwork in A4 size only.

## SOLUTIONS

**SOLVE IN 1M**
-120[45-(15-10(-33))]
-120[45-(15+330)]
-120[45-345]
-120(-300)
36,000

**BULL'S EYE**
ache, acne, cane, cant, cent, chant, chat, cheat, each, enact, ENCHANT, etch, teach

**FAST FIVE**

| | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| C | E | L | L | A |
| T | A | B | I | S |
| A | N | O | D | E |
| O | B | E | S | E |
| D | O | W | E | L |

**RIDDLER**
A leaf on a deciduous tree.

**STRIKE OUT**

| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| L | Y | E | S | | Y | E | S | | I | V | O | R | | |
| E | | T | | S | | L | | O | | | | | | |
| E | L | A | N | D | S | | A | K | I | M | B | O | | |
| H | | I | | E | A | S | E | L | | I | | D | | |
| W | I | P | E | R | S | | H | A | S | S | L | E | | |
| G | | O | S | E | | C | | T | R | A | | H | | |
| N | | A | D | V | E | R | S | E | | | | T | | |
| I | | S | E | N | | D | | N | U | N | | D | | |
| R | A | S | C | A | L | | C | A | R | A | F | E | | |
| E | | E | | E | | R | I | E | | M | | N | | |
| T | X | | A | | T | | | O | | P | | | | |
| S | H | E | D | | L | A | S | | A | T | N | O | | |

**QUICK**

| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | | | | | | | | | | | I | |
| | | | C | | S | | | R | | H | | | L | |
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| L | | | G | | L | | Y | | I | | U | | | |
| V | | R | | R | | D | | M | | | | | | |
| H | A | S | T | Y | | M | A | T | I | S | S | E | | |
| | | R | | | | S | | W | | | | A | | |
| Y | A | R | D | A | R | M | | A | D | I | T | S | | |
| | | E | | | E | | Y | | E | | T | | | |
| Z | E | S | T | | H | A | B | I | T | U | A | L | | |
| N | | S | | S | | T | | I | | G | | | | |
| S | U | D | O | K | U | | E | D | D | I | E | S | | |
| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |

**MENSA PUZZLE**
D: lines across proceed +3, +2, +1. lines down proceed +3, +2, +1.

**QUOTE UNCODE**
You can't separate peace from freedom because no one can be at peace unless he has his freedom.

**SUDOKU**

| | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 7 | 8 | 4 | 1 | 2 | 9 | 6 | 3 | 5 |
| 2 | 5 | 3 | 8 | 6 | 4 | 1 | 9 | 7 |
| 9 | 6 | 1 | 7 | 3 | 5 | 8 | 4 | 2 |
| 1 | 3 | 9 | 5 | 8 | 7 | 4 | 2 | 6 |
| 5 | 4 | 8 | 2 | 1 | 6 | 3 | 7 | 9 |
| 6 | 7 | 2 | 9 | 4 | 3 | 5 | 8 | 1 |
| 3 | 2 | 7 | 6 | 5 | 8 | 9 | 1 | 4 |
| 4 | 1 | 5 | 3 | 9 | 2 | 7 | 6 | 8 |
| 8 | 9 | 6 | 4 | 7 | 1 | 2 | 5 | 3 |

**ALPHA TRIANGLE**
G, Eg, Gee, edge, Greed, Ledger, Pledger.

**GO FIGURE**
Easy
6 + 3 – 7 + 9 = 11
Medium
8 + 3 – 3 – 5 = 3
Hard
8 x 7 x 5 / 7 = 40

**LOOP**

**KAKURO**

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